

Message Text

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44

ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 EURE-00 IO-14 SAM-01 SR-02 ORM-03 SSO-00

NSCE-00 USIE-00 INRE-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03

INR-11 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-07 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-03

SS-20 DRC-01 /107 W

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O R 021617Z OCT 74

FM AMEMBASSY ATHENS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 5739

INFO AMEMBASSY NICOSIA

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE ATHENS 7197

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, GR, U.S, OTRA (AHEPA DELEGATION)

SUBJECT: VISIT TO GREECE AND CYPRUS OF MEMBERS OF
GREEK AMERICAN ORGANIZATION, AHEPA

REF: STATE 210076; ATHENS 6984; STATE 211711; STATE 214032

1. AHEPA DELEGATION ARRIVED AT THE ATHENS INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT SEPT. 30. IT INCLUDED INDIVIDUALS LISTED IN STATE 210076 EXCEPT THAT PETER DERZIS DROPPED OUT AND PETER SIDERIS AND ACHILLES MAVROMATIS WERE ADDED. AMBASSADOR PETROUNAKOS, CHIEF OF THE OVERSEAS GREEK DIVISION, MFA, AND MEMBERS OF HIS STAFF; RANKING CAA AND TWA OFFICIALS; AND ADMINISTRATIVE COUNSELOR GEANEAS (CONTROL OFFICER) MET DELEGATION. AFTER INTRODUCTIONS AND GREETINGS GROUP ESCORTED TO VIP LOUNGE FOR REFRESHMENTS. ALL AIRPORT FORMALITIES WERE EITHER WAIVED OR EXPEDITED. EMBASSY PROVIDED TRANSPORTATION TO HILTON HOTEL.

2. PROGRAM FOR BALANCE OF DAY INCLUDED INITIAL MEETING AT 1230 WITH AMBASSADOR KUBISCH AT EMBASSY FOLLOWED BY BRIEFING BY COUNSELORS FOR POLITICAL AND PUBLIC AFFAIRS AND ECON OFFICER. AMBASSADOR HOSTED A LUNCH AT RESIDENCE.

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REST OF AFTERNOON FREE. AHEPANS WITH CONTROL OFFICER HAD

DINNER AT LOCAL TAVERNA AND MADE NEXT DAY'S ARRANGEMENTS.

3. PROGRAM OCT. 1 INCLUDED TV TAPING AT HILTON HOTEL (PRESUMABLE BOTH FOR POSSIBLE USE ON GREEK TV AND FOR DOCUMENTARY AHEPA GROUP PREPARING); MEETING WITH UNDER SECRETARY OF SOCIAL SERVICES, ATHANASSIOS TSALDARIS, TO DISCUSS CURRENT RELIEF EFFORT AND FUTURE NEEDS; (TSALDARIS EMPHASIZED DESIRABILITY OF CASH CONTRIBUTIONS RATHER THAN INDIVIDUAL RELIEF PACKAGES BECAUSE OF DISTRIBUTION PROBLEMS AND AVAILABILITY OF SUPPLIES OF PURCHASE ON CYPRUS); MEETING WITH PM CARAMANLIS WHICH RECEIVED COVERAGE ON EVENING TV NEWS SHOWS; MEETING WITH CYPRIOT AMBASSADOR KRANIDOTIS; LUNCHEON AT TUDOR ROOM, HOTEL KING GEORGE, HOSTED BY AMBASSADOR PETROUNAKOS. IN LATE AFTERNOON FINAL ARRANGEMENTS WERE MADE FOR THE CYPRUS TRIP AND DELEGATION'S RETURN TO U.S. EMBASSY CYPRUS CONTROL OFFICER, FSO GRAHAM, WAS ADVISED OF ADDITIONAL ACTIVITIES DELEGATION DESIRED. REMAINDER OF DAY AND EVENING FREE.

4. MEDIA PLAY ON ARRIVAL WAS ROUTINE. OCT. 2 PRESS COVERAGE CONFINED TO KATHIMERINI AND ELEFTHEROS COSMOS, BOTH OF WHICH FEATURED PICTURE OF AHEPA DELEGATION WITH PM CARMANLIS. GENERAL THEME WAS AHEPA CONCERN OVER CYPRUS ISSUE, AND DELEGATION'S INTENTION TO REPORT THEIR FINDINGS TO PRESIDENT FORD. PM REPORTED TO HAVE SAID THAT DELEGATION PROMISED TO HELP GREECE IN EVERY WAY "AT THIS CRUCIAL POINT OF HER HISTORY" AND TO HAVE THANKED THEM FOR THEIR EFFORTS IN GREECE'S BEHALF.

5. AHEPANS APPEARED SATISFIED WITH ARRANGEMENTS HERE. THEIR ONE RESERVATION WAS THAT ONLY C-47 PROVIDED FOR THE ATHENS-CYPRUS FLIGHT BECAUSE OF ITS SLOW SPEED, SIZE AND LACK OF PRESSURIZATION. EMBASSY BELIEVES, HOWEVER, THAT SUCCESSFUL ARRANGEMENTS TO TRANSPORT RELIEF GOODS THAT DELEGATION BROUGHT WITH THEM WILL OVERCOME ANY PROBLEM IN THIS REGARD.

6. EMBASSY WILL PROVIDE WRAP-UP REPORT AFTER DELEGATION'S RETURN FROM CYPRUS OCTOBER 4.
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KUBISCH

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